

# California Department of Fish and Game

Sampling Fisheries and Fish  
Communities

# Fish Sampling Programs

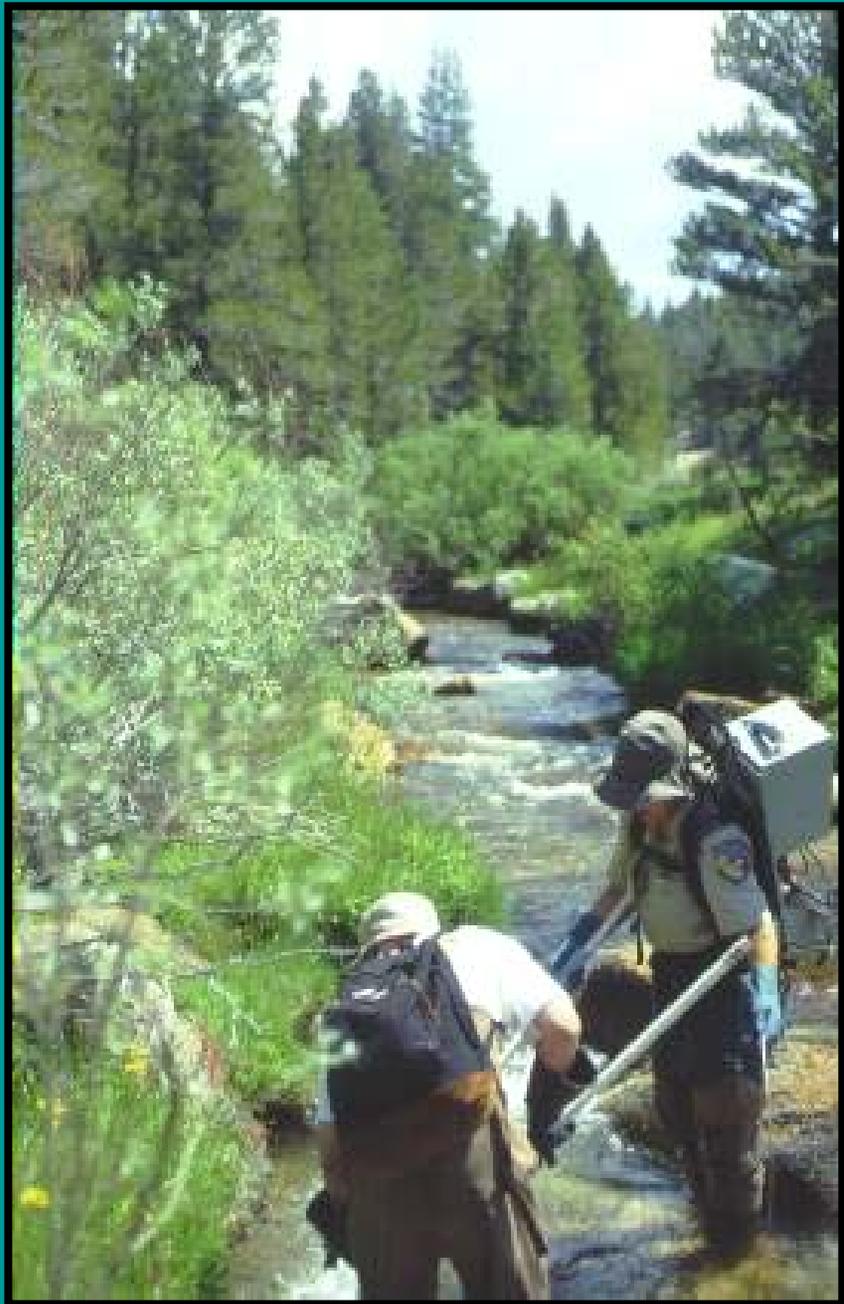
- Historic Stream and Lake Surveys
- Coastal Watershed Restoration Monitoring—  
California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration  
Manual
- Reservoir Research Program
- Heritage and Wild Trout Program
- High Mountain Lakes—Resource Assessment
- Steelhead Research and Monitoring Program

# Types of fish surveys



Basic Resource Assessment—Fish Community Composition  
Presence/Absence  
Abundance estimates, indexes, trends  
Status of threatened/endangered species







Direct Observation—snorkel survey





# California Wild Trout Program

- Established in 1971
- Designate streams and lakes to be managed for wild trout and quality angling
- Recommend special angling regulations
- Monitor sport fisheries and fish populations

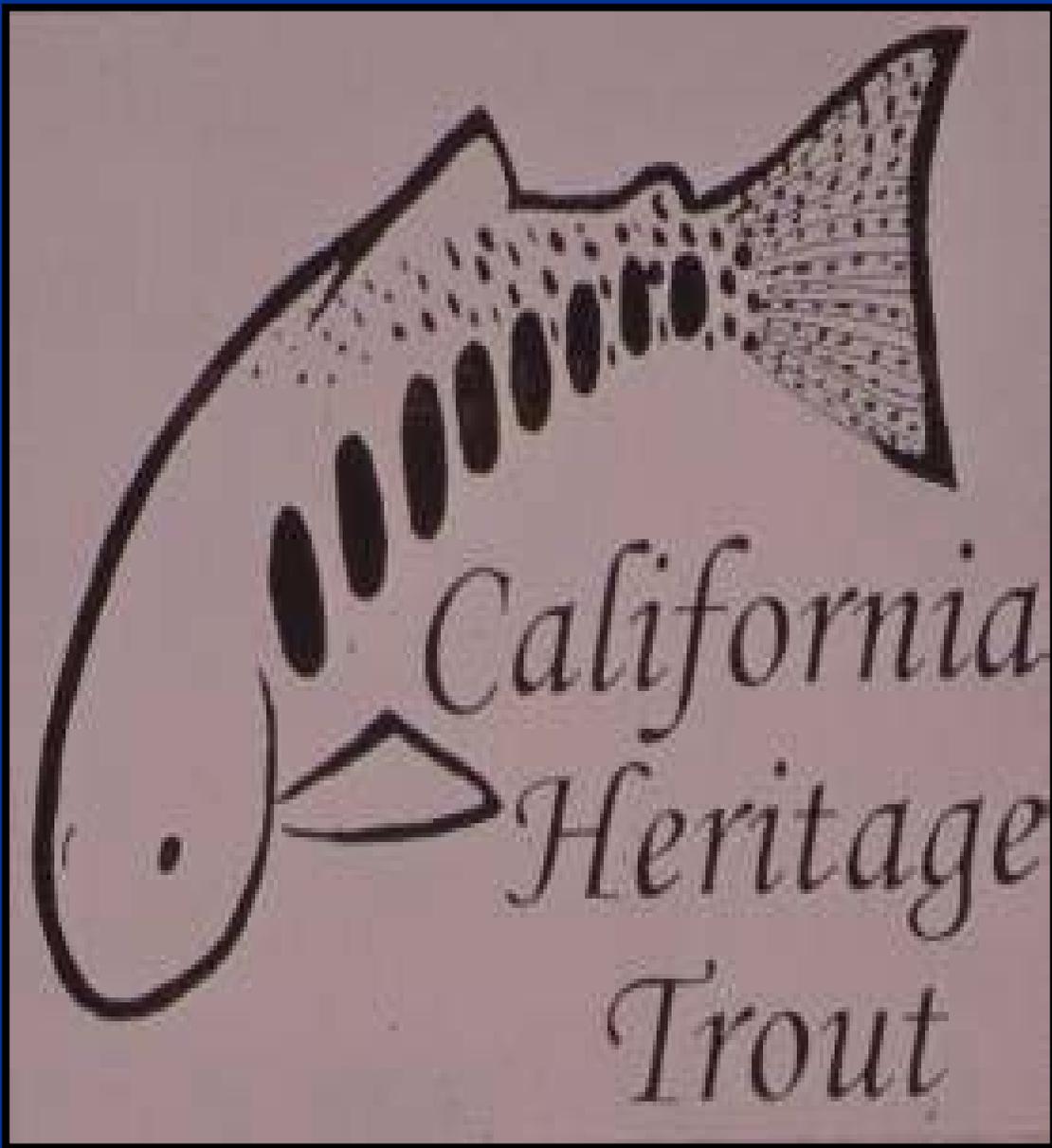
## Trout and Steelhead Conservation and Management Planning Act of 1979

Conduct statewide inventory of trout streams and lakes

Recommend "Catch-and-Release" angling regulations annually

Evaluate "Catch-and-Release" angling regulations





California  
Heritage  
Trout

# Wild Trout Program

## Assessing Fish Assemblages

- Statewide stream inventory
- Fish population monitoring
- Evaluating angling regulations



# Wild Trout Statewide Stream Survey Protocol



Wild Trout Program Database  
1982-2003

Rivers, Streams-- Statewide  
Fish Spp-- lengths & weights  
Geographic locators





# Lahontan Basin Fishes

## Native

Lahontan cutthroat trout

Mountain whitefish

Tahoe sucker

Mountain sucker

Lahontan redbside

Paiute sculpin

Speckled dace

Tui chub

## Introduced

rainbow trout

brown trout

brook trout

green sunfish

Sacramento perch

carp

lake trout

smallmouth bass



- Lahontan cutthroat trout





Tahoe sucker



Mountain sucker



Lahontan reddsides



Rainbow trout



## Lahontan Basin Stream Fish Assessment Surveys

Monitor Wild Trout and “Catch-and-Release” Streams

Evaluate Angling Regulations

Evaluate Native Cutthroat Trout Restoration Efforts



## Future of Wild Trout Stream Surveys/ Fish Assessment

Maintain statewide database

Modify surveys to meet new needs, e.g., possible collaboration with DFG's Resource Assessment Program

